



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
District of New Hampshire*

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MEDIA RELEASE

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PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS

FLORIDA MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO FEDERAL WEAPONS CHARGE

Re: United States. v. Daniel Boone

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE: United States Attorney Tom Colantuono and Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives Resident Agent in Charge Kraig Hankins today announced that Daniel Boone, 32, of Dade City Florida, formerly of Laconia, New Hampshire, and Rumney, New Hampshire appeared in U.S. District Court and pleaded guilty to a federal firearms charge, admitting that he illegally sold four firearms to a Providence R.I. man, Brian Bataitis. It is a federal violation for individuals, other than licensed dealers or manufacturers, to transfer firearms to out of state residents.

In August of 2001, Boone drove to Providence, R.I. and sold the four firearms, which he had purchased at the Newfound Sales and Trading Post in Bristol, New Hampshire to Brian Bataitis, a resident of that city. Bataitis was subsequently convicted of narcotics and firearms charges in U.S. District Court in Rhode Island. The indictment against Boone, part of the Department of Justice's Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) initiative, alleges that between August and October 2001, Boone illegally transferred firearms in interstate commerce.

U.S. Attorney Colantuono stated: "This case is just one example of this office's commitment to aggressive prosecution of the federal firearms laws as mandated by Attorney General Ashcroft's "Project Safe Neighborhoods" initiative. Keeping firearms out of the wrong hands and preventing illegal trafficking are primary objectives of PSN."

When Boone is sentenced on January 7, 2004, he could receive a prison sentence of up to 5 years and be fined up to \$250,000.

This arrest resulted from an investigation conducted by the agents of the U. S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms in Rhode Island and New Hampshire. The prosecution is being handled by Assistant U. S. Attorney Helen White Fitzgibbon.